

eBanking & Mobile Banking

Account Inquiry
Statement
PIN Change

Online Payment

eBanking

Fund Transfer

Utility Bill Payment

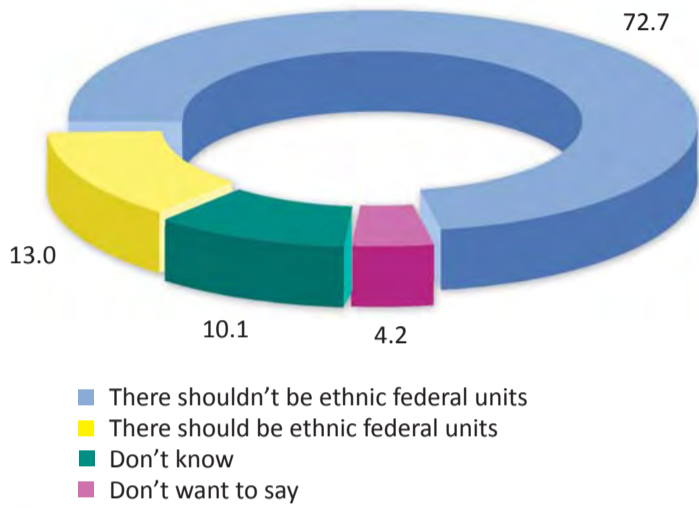
NTC/CDMA Recharge
NTC/Ncell Post Paid Bill

Mobile Banking

Banking at Your Convenience

नेपाल इन्भेस्टमेन्ट बैंक लि.
NEPAL INVESTMENT BANK LTD.
Truly a Nepali Bank

Should new federal units be carved along ethnic lines as some groups want?



Voters' voice

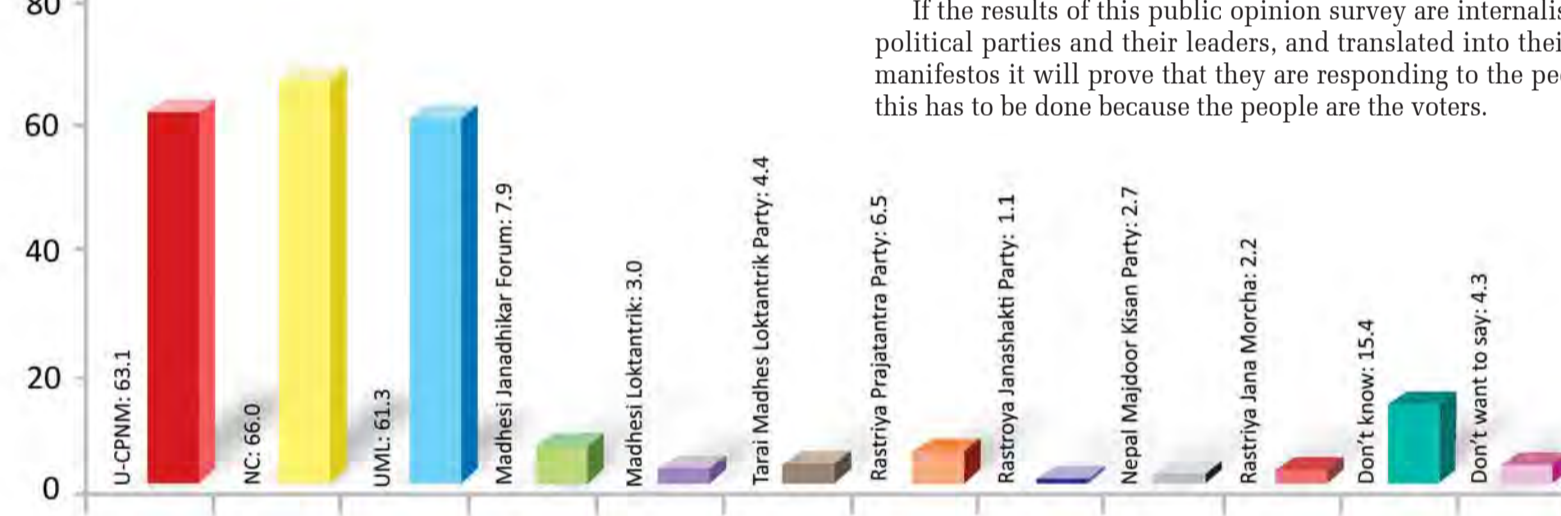
The results of this year's Himalmedia Public Opinion Survey 2012 reinforce many of the conclusions of previous year's polls: on whether or not the constitution will be written by deadline, what to do if it isn't, who is to blame for the delay. The poll also reinforces an enduring message that has come out over and over again in surveys conducted over the past 12 years: Nepalis are too preoccupied with day-to-day survival and are disillusioned with politicians and fed up with politics. Their primary concerns are more mundane: jobs, inflation, corruption, health, education.

The fact that more than 7 out of 10 Nepalis think ethnicity based federalism is a bad idea is not a surprise because there was a similar result in last year's poll. Nor was the relative popularity of political parties, with the NC being slightly ahead of the Maoists. What was new in this year's survey was the surge of Baburam Bhattarai and the plunge in Pushpa Kamal Dahal's popularity.

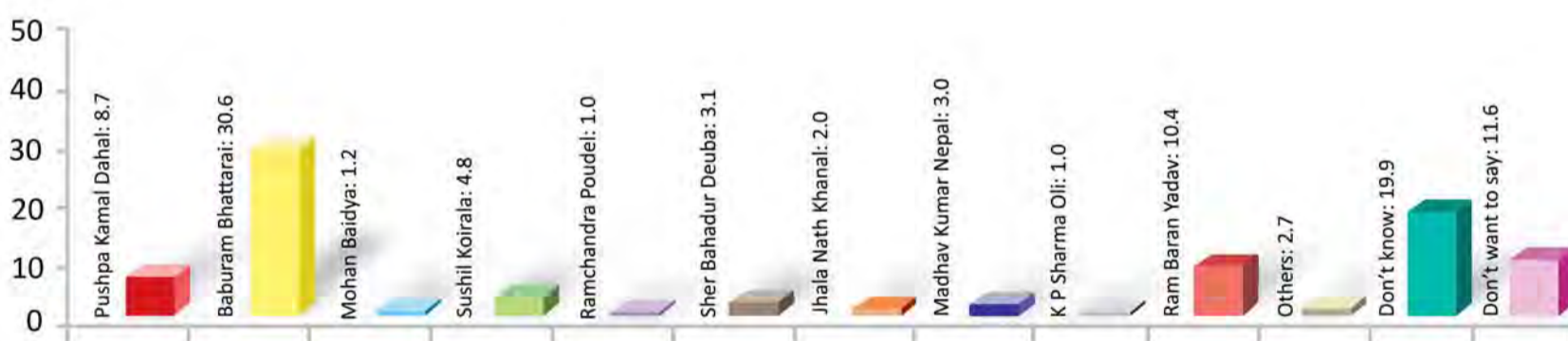
If the results of this public opinion survey are internalised by the political parties and their leaders, and translated into their election manifestos it will prove that they are responding to the people. And this has to be done because the people are the voters.



Which three parties would you choose to deliver a peaceful, prosperous and democratic Nepal?



If you could directly elect the next executive president, who would you choose?



More things change, more they remain the same

Editorial, page 2

Make-or-break media

This year's Himalmedia Survey underlines the need for the media to be even more accountable and responsible

page 3

The terrain shifts

Analysing the Himalmedia Survey 2012 results

page 12-13

LAVAZZA
ITALY'S FAVOURITE COFFEE

Hotel Clarion - Jawalakhel
D square cafe - patan
For Business Inquiry: 9841505390

WE ARE ON
nepalsutra
Everything Nepali.
ARE YOU?
Available on the App Store
www.nepalsutra.com
Tel: +977 1 470 1422

CONSTITUTION
THURAYA XT
The most rugged satellite phone in the World!
www.constellation.com.np
Tel: +977-1-5549252

Fresh, Chocolatey, Delightful
Dessert @ Grill Me
grill me
Jhamsikhel, 5535294

THE NORTH FACE
The Only Authorized Dealer in Nepal:
Sherpa Adventure Outlet
Thamel, Kathmandu
Tel: +977 1 4445101
www.sao.com.np

With the changing times
Karuna will remain the same

KARUNA INTERIOR PVT. LTD.
GPO: 11720, Gairidhara, Ktm, Nepal
Ph.: 4434581, 4434181
Email: info@karunainterior.com
Web: www.karunainterior.com

Note: We have moved to Gairidhara from Dillibazar

MORE THINGS CHANGE, MORE THEY STAY THE SAME

We have always known that in Nepal the more things change, the more they stay the same. History keeps repeating itself, usually as a farce.

Now, we can quantify that. The results of this year's Himalmedia Public Opinion Survey 2012 reinforces many of the conclusions of previous year's polls: on whether or not the constitution will be written by deadline, what to do if it isn't, who is to blame for the delay. The poll also reinforces an enduring message that has come out over and over again in surveys conducted over the past 12 years: Nepalis are too preoccupied with day-to-day survival, are disillusioned with politicians and fed up with politics. Their primary concerns are more mundane: jobs, inflation, corruption, health, education.

Still, Nepalis instinctively know they have to work with what they have, and will back politicians who show integrity, efficiency and a can-do mentality. This is clear from this year's popularity surge of Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai, with nearly a third of respondents saying they'd vote for him if he stood for elections. The reason is clear: more than half the respondents think he's done a great job since he became prime minister. His populist photo-ops (riding a Mustang, travelling economy, cleaning the Bagmati) seem to have worked and people seem to want to overlook the fact that he has surrounded himself with crooks. The poll also shows that the higher politicians fly the further they fall: Maoist Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal used to top all polls since 2006. This year, his rating has dropped to single digit. The reason must

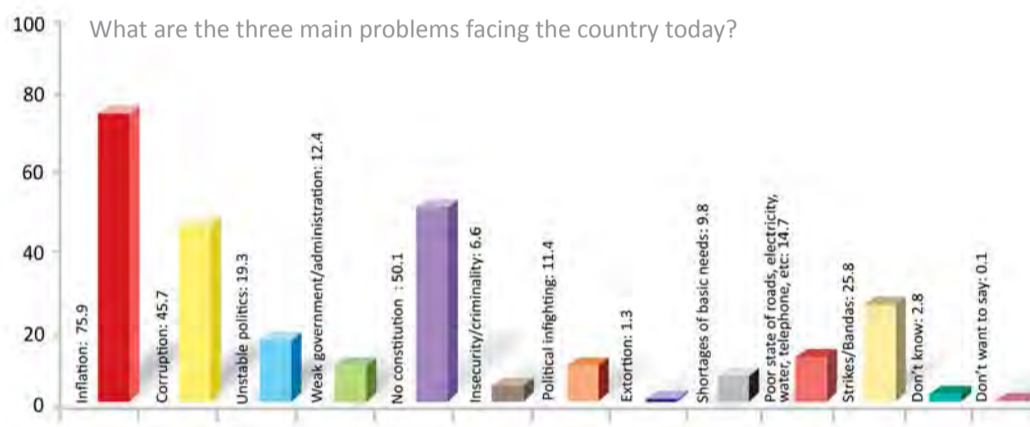
Ordinary Nepalis seem to have inherently more common sense than the politicians who represent them.

be the media's coverage of his contradictory statements, moving to a luxurious villa, his business interests and his son's shenanigans.

Nepalis are thoroughly dissatisfied with the chronic political instability of the past 20 years and the lack of accountability of elected leaders. They seem to blame this on the horse-trading inherent in the parliamentary system as practiced here. So, most of those polled said they'd want either a directly-elected prime minister or president. The issue of ethnicity-based federalism has polarised the political class, but at the people's level there seems to be little doubt that demarcating future federal units based on ethnicity is a bad idea. Reinforcing the results of the

poll last year, upwards of 60 per cent of the indigenous people and Madhesis themselves are apprehensive about ethnic federalism.

There is nothing wrong with righting historical wrongs, but it does seem that a few politicians want to propel themselves to power by using identity politics even though the silent majority among their own aren't going along. In fact, nearly half the respondents no matter where they live and which ethnic group they belong to, say if you must have federalism, stick with the north-south model to make viable provinces. This is not the Bahun-Chhetri elite in Kathmandu talking, ordinary Nepalis seem to have inherently more common sense than the politicians who represent them.



The good news is that public opinion still matters in this country. It should matter because only then can we quantify public anger and prod political leaders to respond and reform their ways. Prime Minister Bhattarai's popularity is proof that people still value integrity and performance, and will reward it even if it means clutching at straws. And the lesson from the rise and fall of Pushpa Kamal Dahal is to never take anything for granted: especially the people's trust.

ON THE WEB

FEDERAL EXPRESS

Just give us peace, law and order, and justice ('Federal express', editorial, #603). Control corruption, cut down the government's size and spending, and create employment. As long as the leaders do their job, we don't care who is in power Bhattarai, Dahal or Poudel.

Gopal

- Why is there such disregard for human lives in this country? Did innocent people have to die in Janakpur? And what if more people are killed between now and 27 May, who will be held accountable? Do our leaders feel any shame or guilt? Or will they just keep fighting amongst themselves over petty and selfish issues?

Bikas

- Deuba and Koirala are at each other's throats. Khanal, Oli and Nepal are also fighting. And former comrades Dahal and Baidya are refusing to see eye-to-eye. But do any of these leaders actually care about the people? What about our demands and needs? We need to get rid of this male-dominated political structure and let women take charge.

Sheila Pradhan

- Dahal and Bhattarai are learning hard lessons. It's one thing to fight a war from the jungle and another to govern a country. Both of them have no experience in statesmanship and are quickly losing support of ordinary Nepalis. The NC and UML now have the upper hand.

Mamata Sharma

- No Maoist, NC or UML leader has made the slightest effort to look for alternatives, such as

holding another elections or calling for a referendum and letting people resolve contentious issues like the Supreme Court had ordered them to do six months ago. Such merry-go-round politics allows these leaders to preserve the status quo, accumulate more wealth and avoid facing the public. They don't care about the 90 per cent of Nepalis who are suffering because of their ineptitude and inaction.

Rabi

- First we had 601 CA members and now three deputy prime ministers. Is this some kind of joke? We need to revolt against this madness and let the leaders know enough is enough. We've already wasted 22 years, let's not waste another day.

Nabin Dongol

- 27 May will come and go and life will move on as usual in Nepal. No matter what kind of constitution is made, the public will quietly accept it, like they accepted the declaration of a republic. And we will continue living with power and gas shortages, crime and corruption, while hordes of young Nepalis escape to foreign countries in search of jobs and better opportunities.

Krishna S

- So even the unity government was set up with India's assistance. Our southern neighbour is all over our politics. Can't we do anything on our own anymore?

Sudha

BEWARE

Thank you Rubeena Mahato for highlighting the experiences of Sri Lanka, Bosnia and former Czechoslovakia ('Beware of the future', #603). All three countries could have prevented ethnic conflict and violence if

leaders had shown statesmanship and long-term vision, traits which are sorely lacking in Nepali leaders as well. We should learn from the mistakes of other nations, but do our politicians care?

Kiran L

- We now find ourselves in a catch 22 situation. If the country is not carved out along ethnic lines, there is imminent danger of violent but short-lived civil unrest. And if the country is divided along ethnic lines, there is greater danger of prolonged civil strife.

Poudel

- The overall message of the column is good. We have to be united and stand up against divisive politics. But I disagree with the writer's assertion that political accommodation can lead to ethno-separatism and ethnic wars. Rigid political structures suffocate democracy. Being flexible and accommodating, without compromising on corner stones of the country is still the best way forward.

Bhumika Ghimire

- Rubeena is spot on with her argument. Disregarding principles and long-term problems in exchange for short-term gains can be harmful. Democracy is about accepting dissident views, but blanket inclusion of every voice will derail the process in the long run. After all, there has to be something called procedure and complex issues require serious debates and thought. Accommodating everything for the sake of appeasement is dangerous.

'Mohan Baidya'

SELF INTEREST

The federalism debate in Nepal sounds very hollow ('Enlightened self-interest', Alok Bohara, #603). I have never seen leaders bargaining over the number of provinces and creating federal states

completely outside the purview of experts and constitutional scholars. I am also surprised by how such closed door negotiations are being allowed at the cost of the nation's future. In other countries, when politicians haggle over geographic space to maximise their vote banks, it's called gerrymandering. Nepalis might want to postpone this process for a few years.

Simms

- A federal Nepal divided along ethnic lines will neither lead to economic progress nor satisfy the egos of ethnic leaders. Bomb explosions in Janakpur and indefinite shut down of the far-west are just previews of what naya Nepal could be headed towards.

Sital

- Any federal model that does not take into account the ecological landscape will be a failure. Ethnic sentiments are valid, but they will not feed the people. Nor will they help provinces increase export competitiveness or advance technologically. A compromise is feasible as the author suggests, but are any of the big boys listening?

Pramod

- The country seems to be headed towards ethnic-federalism and we need to learn to live with it. But hopefully as more Nepalis become educated, they will understand the logic behind economically viable models and our boundaries will evolve.

Abhinav

JAUN HAI POKHARA

Thank you *Nepali Times* for promoting cities outside of Kathmandu ('Pokhara Package', #603). If we could develop Pokhara into a tourism hotspot and economic hub, it would benefit the entire country. I hope to read more

interesting stories on Nepali cities in your upcoming issues.

RR

- Pokhara should follow the example of Dharan and stop depending on the incompetent central government for any assistance. Let the citizens of Pokhara and its business leaders provide the basic needs.

Tsering

- The airport in Kochi, Kerala is a fine example of how to preserve and promote local heritage. Like Kerala, Nepal has a great architectural history and traditional designs should be used to build the new airport.

Martin

- I don't think building a new international airport in Pokhara is a good idea. It would ruin the city's natural beauty. How about choosing a location some place near Pokhara, but not right in the middle of the city?

Kishor

- The roar of jet engines as they fly over Phewa Lake will completely destroy the Valley's charm.

Carl

Times nepalnews.com
Weekly Internet Poll #604

Q. Do you think NC's decision to join the present government will help in drafting the constitution?

Total votes: 1,820

- Yes 57.3%
- No 29.9%
- Wait and watch 12.8%

Weekly Internet Poll # 605. To vote go to: www.nepalitimes.com

Q. If there was an election for directly-elected executive, who would you vote for?



Make-or-break media

This year's Himalmedia Survey underlines the need for the media to be even more accountable and responsible



This year's survey shows a surge in popularity of Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai, with nearly a third of respondents saying they'd vote for him if he stood for elections. This is popularity based on perceptions of performance and honesty. More than half the respondents think the Bhattarai government has done a better job than previous governments.

The results prove the power and role of the media in shaping public opinion. The photo-ops of Bhattarai riding a Mustang after his swearing-in, flying economy class to New York, inspecting eateries in Mugling, widening Kathmandu streets, and getting his hands dirty cleaning the Bagmati built the impression of a man who is a do-er and not a talker.

A lot of this was a result of careful media management and spin, but it seems to have worked. The public has also been watching him, and feel he has done everything he said he would: conclude the peace process, form a unity government, try to get the constitution passed. Being incumbent, there is a certain Teflon effect, where the fact that corruption is rife in the Bhattarai cabinet or that he has been propped up by India (an accusation his own party seniors openly make) doesn't seem to stick on the prime minister. Or, it could be argued, he would have been even more popular if he had cleaned up his government.

Which institution do you trust the most?

	Most	Enough	Don't trust	Don't trust at all	Don't want to say	Don't know
CIAA	11.3%	51%	9.9%	3.4%	0.9%	23.5%
Election Commission	11.5%	60.3%	7.9%	1.7%	0.8%	17.9%
Courts	20.5%	58.7%	10.2%	2.3%	0.4%	7.9%
Army	17.1%	63.4%	11.4%	3.0%	0.4%	4.7%
Police	9.5%	57.2%	23.2%	6.6%	0.2%	3.4%
Civil service	8.4%	50.2%	20.7%	6.3%	0.5%	13.8%
Media	31.7%	55.3%	6.6%	1.5%	0.1%	4.9%
Government	6.8%	49.5%	27.4%	11.4%	0.4%	4.5%

How has your trust in the following institutions changed in the past 3-4 years?

	Increased	Same	Decreased	Don't want to say	Don't know
Police	28.9%	47.5%	20.2%	0.2%	3.2%
Government offices	18.0%	52.2%	22.3%	0.4%	7.1%
NGOs	20.2%	49.5%	16.1%	0.6%	13.7%
VDCs, Municipality	28.6%	48.5%	17.2%	0.3%	5.4%
Consumer rights groups	28.2%	44.5%	13.7%	0.6%	13.1%
Media	51%	37.1%	6.8%	0.1%	5.0%
Political parties	8%	36%	49.7%	0.3%	5.9%
Intellectuals	30.3%	49%	11.2%	0.6%	8.9%

In stark contrast, the Himalmedia survey also shows that public opinion can be fickle, and trust of the people once lost

is hard to win back. In all past polls, Pushpa Kamal Dahal has been scoring high on popularity, but he has been knocked off his

pedestal pretty ignominiously this year. The 2012 Himalmedia survey shows his rating has plummeted to single digit,

trailing way behind Baburam Bhattarai, and even behind ceremonial president Ram Baran Yadav. Again, the media's coverage of his contradictory statements, his luxurious lifestyle and rumours that he is the richest man in Nepal have turned public opinion against him despite (and perhaps because of) his high profile in the press.

One question in the public opinion poll concerned how much the people trust various institutions like the Nepal Police, Nepal Army, the CIAA and the Election Commission. The media tops the list with nearly a third of the respondents saying they trust the media the most. Given the impact the media has on public opinion of political personalities and parties, and given the faith the public puts on the media's credibility, places an even bigger responsibility on the shoulders of Nepal's media.

Unlike politicians whom they cover (and uncover), no one elects journalists, editors and op-ed writers. This means media personalities have to stand up to an even higher moral code and standards of integrity. This year's Himalmedia poll underlines the need for the media to be even more accountable and responsible so as not to squander the overwhelming trust the public has placed on it. **Kunda Dixit**

Building Networks for People

3G Router

DWR-113
3G Wi-Fi Router

DWR-131
3G Pocket Router

DWM-156
3.75G HSUPA
3G USB Adaptor

ADSL Router

DSL-2730U
N150

DSL-2750U
N300

Broadband Router

DIR-600
N150

DIR-615
N300

MERCANTILE OFFICE SYSTEMS PVT. LTD.
Hitti Pokhari, Durbar Marg, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 977-1-4445920 / 4440773
Fax: 977-1-4437088
E-mail: market@mercantile.com.np

Kathmandu Dealers
Star Office Automation, Putalisadak : 4266820, Max International, Putalisadak : 4415786, Interactive Computer Center, New Road : 4227854, The Waves Group, Lazimpat : 4410423, Click Solution center, Lalitpur : 5536649, Flash International, New Road : 4222384

Outside Kathmandu Dealers
Quality Computer, Birtamode : 023-540150, Birat Infotech, Biratnagar : 021-538729, 9852027264, Megatech, Biratnagar : 021-532000, Gagan Enterprises, Birgunj : 9855022388, Advance Computer, Banepa : 9851081595, Hi-Tech Trade Concern, Chitwan : 051-571564, E-Net Solution, Chitwan : 056-572096, Himalayan Office Automation, Pokhara : 061-525300, Computer Service Center, Butwal : 071-542699/675, Smart Link Dang : 082-561022, Dinesh Trading House, Nepalgunj : 081-527092, Manokamana Hitech, Nepalgunj : 081-521473, Ugratara Trading House, Dhangadhi : 091-523601, Dinesh Computer, Dhangadhi : 091-521392, Ugratara Technical Goods, Mahendra Nagar : 099-523872

The Human Touch

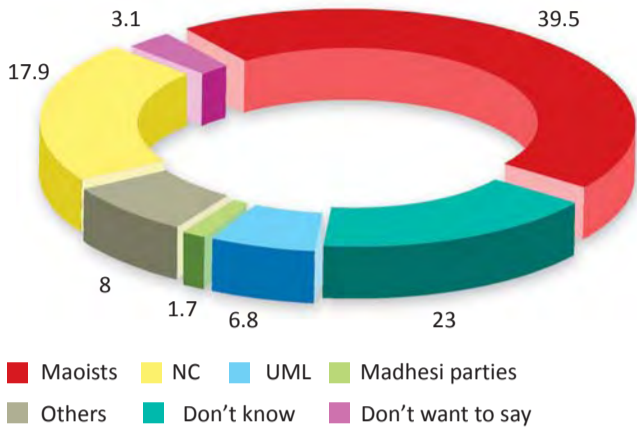
As Nepal's most-modern printing facility, Jagadamba Press is known for its state-of-the-art equipment. But we never forget the human touch.



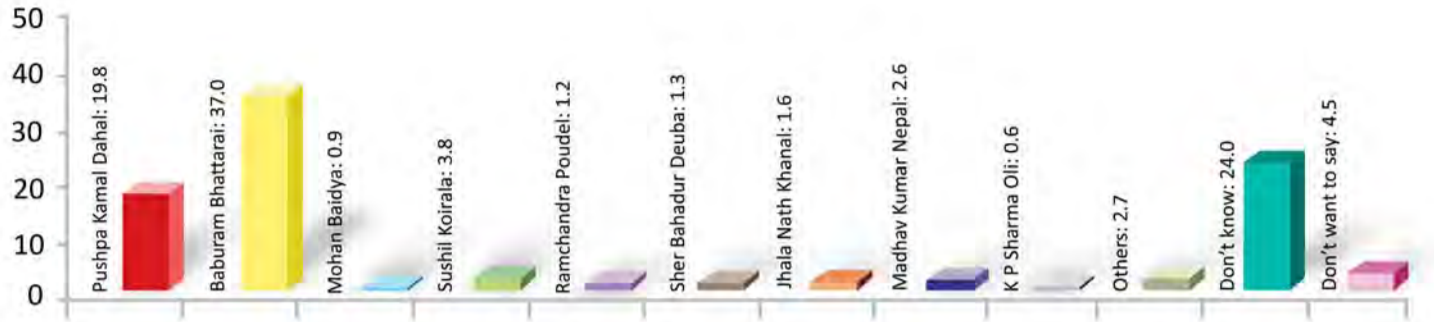
The terrain shifts

This year's Himalmedia Public Opinion Survey proves Nepalis are still more preoccupied with stagnant economy than deadlocked politics

The peace process is now nearly complete. Who do you credit for this?



Which leader had the most important role in the completion of the peace process?



KUNDA DIXIT

Year after year, Himalmedia polls have shown that despite hardships or during the darkest days of war, a majority of Nepalis were always hopeful about the future. Nearly all respondents in every poll have said they are worried about the lack of development and jobs, about endemic corruption and inflation, but they have kept an optimistic outlook. The public never held their rulers in very high esteem, but realise that they are what they are.

This year's poll is no different. The Himalmedia Public Opinion Survey 2012 shows that inflation remains the number one preoccupation of the people with 92% saying it is worse than last year, and 64% saying corruption is worse. Politics is way down in their list of concerns, and the constitution is important only in as much as it has a bearing on peace. But a majority of respondents still feel things are improving, and 85% of those in the Himal and Pahad cite road access as the biggest progress. Disaggregating the data, however, shows a stark

difference in the perception of development in the Tarai where half the respondents said there has been little development. Interestingly, those who can't read or write seem happier, and the more educated the respondents the more dissatisfied they seem to be with the pace of development. Nepalis seem disillusioned with a Westminster-style parliamentary democracy and want direct franchise to elect future executive presidents or prime ministers. Asked which form of government they would prefer, nearly 40% favoured a directly-elected presidential system, and 25% wanted to vote directly for prime ministers.

The most dramatic change this year compared to the last few polls has been in the perception of top political personalities. Most respondents give credit to Baburam Bhattarai and Pushpa Kamal Dahal (37% and 20% respectively) for concluding the peace process. When asked who they would directly vote for as executive prime minister or president, Bhattarai topped the list of names of 12 senior leaders from four parties with a 30.6% approval rating. Pushpa Kamal Dahal trailed with 8.6%, and President Ram Baran Yadav ranked second with 10.4% of votes. The Baidya faction was nowhere in the picture, and all other

leaders of the NC, UML and Madhesi were in the single digits, or even below 1%. Surprisingly, even though his name was not on the list, many said they would vote for Gagan Thapa. But the popularity contest is still up for grabs because one-third of the respondents said they didn't know or didn't want to say. A new question in this year's poll dealt with the performance of the Baburam Bhattarai government which came to power in November last year. Nearly 60% of respondents gave Bhattarai a thumbs up, while 26% felt there was no difference between this government and previous ones. In a surprising departure



बम्पर उपहार
एक जनालाई काठमाडौं नयाँ बानेश्वर नजिक वागमती अपार्टमेन्टमा २ बेडरुम अपार्टमेन्ट

हरेक महिना
TATA Nano कार र Mahindra Rodeo 125 स्कूटर एक एक जनालाई

हरेक साता
LG को Refrigerator, Micro-Wave oven र Washing Machine एक एक जनालाई

हरेक दिन
Maxx Mobile र D.light Solar Light एक एक जनालाई र शुक्रवार साप्ताहिकको अर्धवार्षिक ग्राहक र Digicom Stand Fan तीन जनालाई

हरेक क्षण
हरेक ग्राहकले पाउनुहुनेछ हात खाली नजाने स्क्र्याच कूपन भित्र लाखौंका उपहार

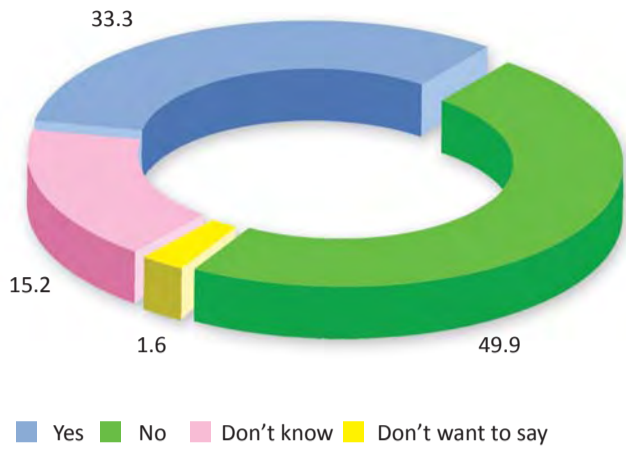
हामी आउँदैछौं तपाईंको घरदैलोमा फेरि एक पटक

रजिष्टर गर्नका लागि CIR टाइप गरी ३२२३ मा एस.एम.एस. गर्नुहोला। यो सेवा नेपाल टेलिकममा मात्र उपलब्ध छ।

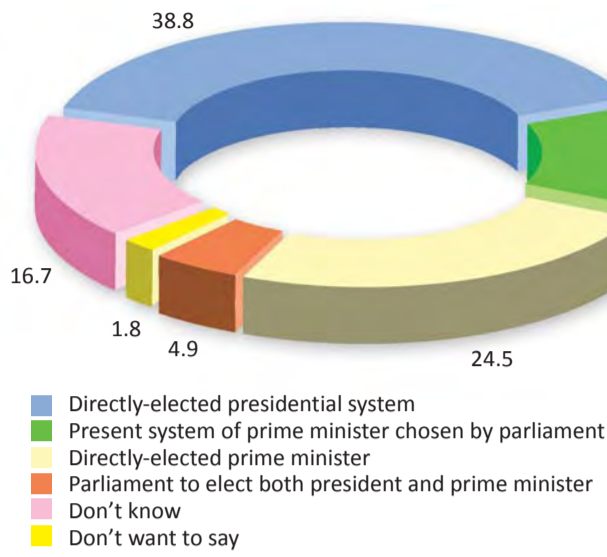
थप जानकारीका लागि
नेपाल रिपब्लिक मिडिया प्रा.लि.
ने.टि.ए. कम्प्लेक्स, बागवजार, काठमाडौं
फोन: ०१-४२६६६६६, ४२६६१०० (Ext. २०४/२०५), इमेल: circulation@nagariknews.com

नोट: वार्षिक ग्राहक यी सबै योजनामा सहभागी हुन पाउनेछन्।
अर्धवार्षिक ग्राहक बम्परबाहेक अन्य योजनामा सहभागी हुन पाउनेछन्।
त्रैमासिक ग्राहक भने हरेक दिन र हरेक क्षण योजनामा मात्र सहभागी हुन पाउनेछन्।
*सर्तहरू लागू हुनेछ

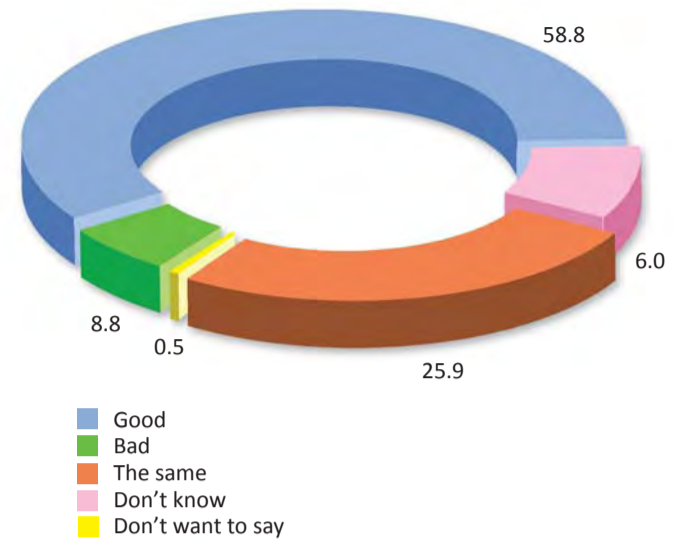
Now that the peace process is nearly finished and the Supreme Court has decided that the constitution must be written by 27 May, do you think the parties will be successful in finishing the constitution by that date?



Would you prefer a presidential or parliamentary system of government?



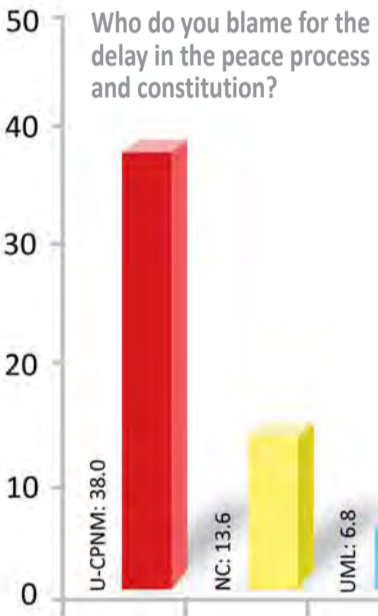
Compared to previous governments how do you rate the performance of the Baburam Bhattarai government?



from these results, when asked to rank the parties they trusted the most to take Nepal forward towards peace and prosperity, the Nepali Congress pipped the Maoists with 66% versus 63% and the UML got 61%. Nearly 20 percent didn't have a preference. Contrary to popular belief, there seems to be scant correlation between support for the Maoist party and age, gender, ethnicity. Support for other parties among young people and ethnic groups was

more or less even. The poll was taken a month before the deadline for the constitution, and as last year, half the respondents are convinced that a new statute will not be ready by 27 May, and a third of them said it was because none of the big parties actually want a new constitution. The people seem more optimistic this year compared to a year ago when 75% thought a new constitution would not be written by the deadline. If a constitution is not written, most respondents still think a new election is the best way forward. Like in the 2011 survey, most of those interviewed (42%) felt the Maoist were mainly responsible for delays in the constitution. On the most contentious

issues in the new constitution, there is a clear majority against demarcating future federal units along ethnic lines. A full 73% of the respondents rejected ethnicity-based federal units and only 14% were undecided. Last year, 76% had said no to ethnic federalism. Interestingly, like last year, 64% of hill ethnic respondents, 70% of Newars and 57% of Madhesi ethnics (which include the Tharus) didn't want federal units for ethnic groups. Asked what would be an alternative model for federal units, 45% favoured north-south territorial units that include Himal, Pahad and Tarai and the proportion of people who support this are equal in all three regions. Thirty per cent wanted the current zones to be simply converted into federal units.



Himalmedia Polls

Himalmedia has been conducting public opinion polls nearly every year since 2000 to gauge the public pulse. Over the years, in monarchy or republic, war or peace, the surveys have served as important barometers of Nepali people's regard (or disregard) for their rulers, the relative popularity of political parties, and recorded the main concerns of the people.

Past polls have accurately predicted the results of elections, and served as rough referenda on the rise and fall of political personalities. Which must be why they have often been criticised as being biased or unscientific by leaders who do not fare well. But when they do better in the surveys than their rivals, the same parties have held up survey results to prove their popularity.

Former king Gyanendra once scoffed at public opinion polls, saying they served no purpose in a country like Nepal, only to lose his throne soon after. Pushpa Kamal Dahal, who has always done well in opinion surveys (except this year) famously boasted after the 2009 survey: "Even a media house that has always been critical of our party has said I am the leader the people trust the most."

This year's Himalmedia Public Opinion Survey was based on interviews with 3,210 respondents in 38 districts selected through a non-random sampling method in April. More than 60 enumerators fanned out across the country to select respondents between the ages of 18-60, and asked 39 questions during the week of 22-29 April.

Compared to the 2011 survey, enumerators felt respondents were even less hesitant to answer interview questions, volunteering their names and phone numbers. In one case, when an enumerator had misplaced her pen and was ticking off boxes with a pencil, a respondent insisted that she use a pen. The full disaggregated tabulation of the poll is available online www.nepalitimes.com

Yeti Airlines flies with BAE's Jetstream 41; World's best turboprop plane.

Yeti Airlines operates Jetstream-41 (J-41) the latest in line of turbo prop planes made by British Aerospace (BAE). With over 100 aircrafts built to date, the BAE's J-41 is in active service as a feeder liner in as many as 12 airlines across the world. The best in its class, the BAE's J-41 is also a top-notch aircraft for private corporate travelers. What's more, Yeti Airlines' 7 J-41 aircrafts are ably supported round-the-clock by a certified crew in its own CAAN approved hangar.

At Yeti Airlines, you always come first.

Yeti Airlines operates 7 Jetstream-41 advanced turbo prop aircrafts catering to widest network sectors every day.

KTM-MTN-KTM Daily 5 Flights • KTM-PKR-KTM Daily 8 Flights • KTM-BIR-KTM Daily 7 Flights • KTM-BDP-KTM Daily 3 Flights • KTM-BWA-KTM Daily 2 Flights • KTM-KEP-KTM Daily 2 Flights • KTM-JKR-KTM Daily 2 Flights • KTM-DHI-KTM Daily 1 Flight • KTM-BHR-KTM Daily 1 Flight • KTM-TMI-KTM Daily 1 Flight

Yeti Airlines Domestic Pvt. Ltd. Corporate Office: Tilganga, Kathmandu, Tel: 4465888 Fax: 4465115 Reservations: 4464878 (Hunting Line), Kathmandu Airport: 4493901 Email: reservations@yetiairlines.com Sky Club: 01-6220940/4465888 (223/418/614) Email: skyclub@yetiairlines.com Bhadrapur: 023-455232 • Biratnagar: 021-536612 • Tumlingtar: 029-575120 • Janakpur: 041-520047 • Bharatpur: 056-523136 • Pokhara: 061-464888 • Bhairahawa: 071-527527 • Nepalgunj: 081-526556 • Dhangadi: 091-523045

FLY ON TIME



Yeti Airlines

You come first

www.yetiairlines.com

News from Ujyaalo

Read while you listen
Listen while you read

Log on:

www.unn.com.np



You will be with Ujyaalo
Where ever you are...

Follow Us

www.facebook.com/Ujyaalo90Network
www.twitter.com/ujyaalo



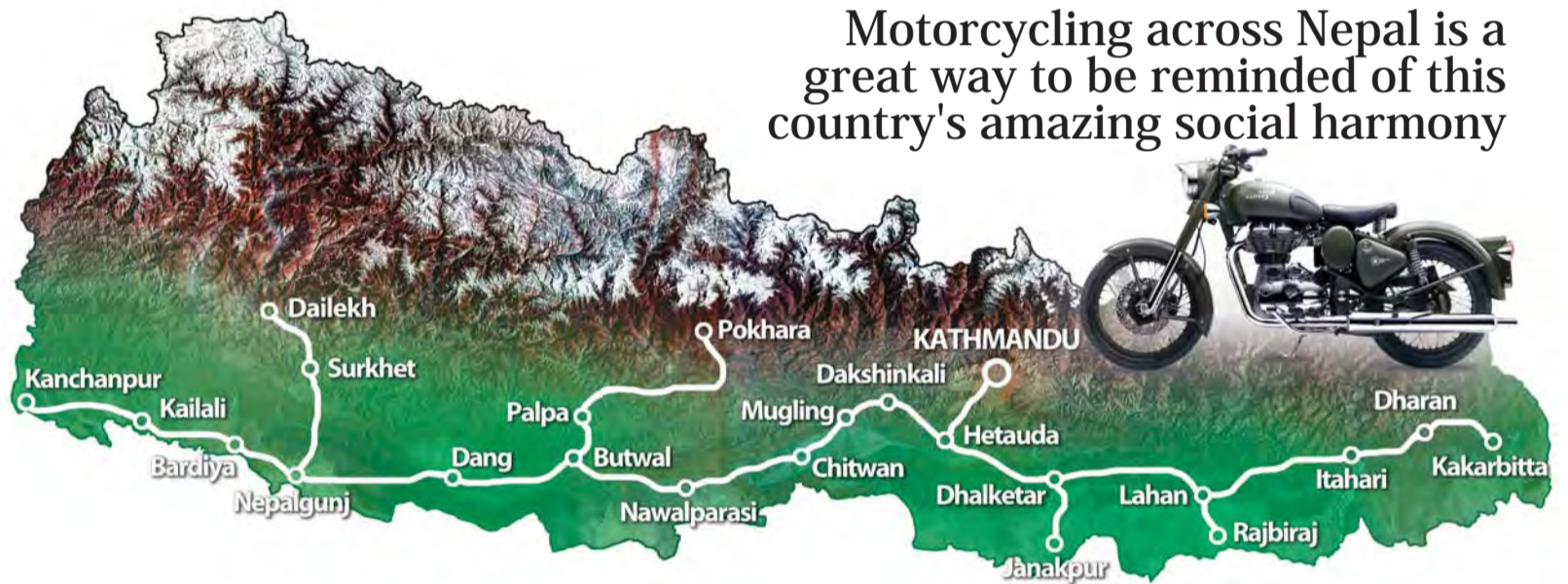
Ujyaalo Online

Ujyaalo Home Shanti Chowk
Jawalakhel-4, Lalitpur G.P.O. Box 6469 Kathmandu,
Tel: 977-15000171, Fax 977-1-5549357 Email: info@unn.com.np



VROOOM VROOOM

Motorcycling across Nepal is a great way to be reminded of this country's amazing social harmony



NARESH NEWAR

For Kathmandu's 100,000 motorcycle riders, it is all about dodging pot holes, being stuck in traffic jams, waiting in queue for petrol, and (lately) trying to outsmart policemen with breathalysers.

For a real adrenaline rush, gun your bike and head off beyond Naubise. Go on, do it, and see what Nepal has to offer. That's what I did last month, and what an adventure it's been.

As I navigated across the

country, passed through 60 towns from the far west to the east and crossed over into Sikkim on my 500cc Enfield Bullet, I realised the first rule of road tripping in Nepal: make a plan, but be flexible. Bandas, chukka jams, landslides, are common and strike without warning.

Rule number two: don't be fazed by flat tyres in the middle of the jungle or Maoists threatening to burn your bike during a banda. Look around, ask for help. Nepalis outside Kathmandu are very helpful.

Once you escape the traffic bottleneck between Thankot and Naubise, the raw beauty of the countryside will take over and you won't feel any pain.

There are some really bad roads (Surkhet-Dailekh) but the highways in the west are surprisingly well maintained compared to rest of the country. In Bardiya, you'll have to ride through the national wildlife reserve at 40 kmph, not faster, not slower, or risk being penalised at the army anti-poaching checkpoint.

For the more adventurous,

take the Karnali Highway to Jumla, but it may be a better idea to let them at least gravel the road first.

For the best and shortest route to the east from Kathmandu, drive down to Hetauda from Dakshinkali. The roads are being re-surfaced but the rough ride is worth the risk, passing lush green hills reflected on the Kulekhani reservoir.

It's one long day from Hetauda to Kakarbita on Nepal's eastern border with India. But you can also make a

pit stop in Janakpur then head out to Lahan the next morning. You can keep going east and hit India, or head north to Dharan, Dhankuta and up to Khandbari.

The reassuring throb of the Bullet takes you through this incredibly diverse country, and you notice how much things are changing because of road access. But also how much of the Nepali soul remains the same. 🇳🇵

nepalitimes.com

Tour the highways



PICS: NARESH NEWAR

Frontier towns

Contrary to popular belief, crossing over to India on a motorbike is not that difficult. The Indian Embassy in Kathmandu issues vehicle permits to Nepalis within two working days after they submit a bank guarantee of Rs 10,000 which is refundable upon return, vehicle registration and insurance papers. With the permit in hand, the Indian border security forces won't interrogate much and vehicle owners will be asked to undergo regular customs check.

A three hour drive from Nepal's eastern border takes you to the beautiful tea estate town of Mirik. A further three hours and Darjeeling with its toy train and sweeping panorama of Kangchenjunga beckons. Kalimpong and its flower nurseries should not be missed either. From there it is on to Gangtok in Sikkim, and one notices how much more economic progress this place has made. Everyone speaks Nepali, it feels like Nepal, only more prosperous.



3



4



5



6

- 1 The East-West Highway is 1,000 km long and Nepal's road artery
- 2 Roads in the western Tarai are the smoothest in the country, like this one in Dang
- 3 The road from Surkhet to Dailekh is not for the faint-hearted
- 4 Demonstrators torched this car near Surkhet to enforce an impromptu banda
- 5 The risks are always higher in the mountains for the motorcyclists, however scenic, you shouldn't take your eyes off the road
- 6 With most men having migrated, women repair tyres in Dailekh

A united Nepali nation

As leaders in Kathmandu scramble to finish a new constitution behind closed doors, they should listen to the people I met from Mechi to Mahakali. It is a country of breathtaking beauty and heartrending poverty. Especially in the west, you can see that poverty spares no one. The Brahmins and Chettris are as poor as the Janjatis and Dalits, their fates are intertwined, as are their hopes and their stories of survival have remained unchanged for centuries.

All castes struggle under the poverty line, and it is poverty that binds them together. In the western Tarai town of Kusum, a destitute young Brahmin widow with two children who lost her husband during the war runs a tiny roadside restaurant. A Madhesi milkman bicycles four hours in the scorching heat everyday to generate income by selling milk to her. A young Dalit fisherman sells his fish at her eatery. A Chettri woman works as a maid to feed her children.

At tea shops and lodges along the way I ask people about federalism. They are fed up with politicians, they think federalism is just a slogan, and having suffered violence during the war they don't want the country to be divided along ethnic lines.

In Janakpur, I meet Madhesi families tired of extortion by armed Madhesi groups. This should have never happened, they said. In Rajbiraj, Madhesi and Pahadi families said they have lived together for generations and don't want to be separated.

A tiny tea stall by the highway in Butwal is run by three men: a Brahmin, a Madhesi and a Gurung. One makes tea, one waits on customers and one washes cups. Here you go. This is the model of a united Nepali nation practiced by ordinary people without any need to carve the country up.

BARAHA

JEWELLERY INDUSTRIES PVT. LTD.

Head Office: New Road Gate, ktm
Tel: 4232964-65, Fax: 01-4233511
Pipal Bot: New Road, Pipalbot, Tel: 2190004, 4266799
Dharan: Bhanuchowk, Mahendrapath, Tel: 025-526777, 520056, Fax: 025-522412
Pokhara: Sabha Griha Chowk, Pokhara, Tel: 061-206570
U.K.: Aldershot, London, Tel: 0044-7824332127, 1252409272
E-mail: info@barahajewellery.com/www.barahajewellery.com

"We specialize in Handmade Nepali Jewellery"

HIMAL KHABARPATRIKA

14-29 MAY 2012-05-10



COVER

HIMAL Public Opinion Survey 2012
This year's poll results reveal people have become more vocal in their choices.

No to ethnic enclaves
Popular Baburam
Reduce inflation
Madhes unhappy

EDITORIAL

Dealing with conspiracy

COMMENTARY

The China affair – Bishwa Poudel
Hopeless hopefuls – Purushottam Dahal
Indivisible challenge – Chandrakishor Jha

REPORTS

Constitutional gaps
Donating lives
Sheltering crime

INTERVIEW

Ram Sharan Mahat
NC Central Committee member

काम सानो ठुलो भन्ने हुँदैन । पसिनाको
कुनै रङ र जात पनि हुँदैन । काम
गरेर खान लजाउनु पनि हुँदैन ।
चोरेर, ढाँटेर, छलेर, लुटेर खान पो
लजाउनुपर्छ । जो जहाँ रहेर जुन काम गर्छ
ऊ त्यसैमा रमाउनुपर्छ गौरव गर्नुपर्छ र
समर्पित भएर गर्नुपर्छ । काम नै शक्ति हो,
भक्ति हो र मुक्ति हो । कामको इज्जत
गरौं, पसिनाको सम्मान गरौं ।

नेपाल सरकार
सूचना तथा सञ्चार मन्त्रालय
सूचना विभाग



EVENTS

EXHIBITION ON EVEREST, a photography exhibition by Jeff Botz which shows Mount Everest in its true glory. 26 April to 26 May, 9.30 am to 5pm, Image Ark Studio, Kulimha Tole, Patan

World Fair Trade Day Fair, exhibition of handicraft and agro food products by 40 FTG Nepal members. Visit food stalls of typical Newari cuisine. 19 May, 10am to 5pm, Baithak Event Venue, Tripureshwor

Art on Display, sixteen artists display paintings they under the guidance of Lapnive Bangdel. 7 May to 17 May, 10am to 6pm, Nepal Art Council



HOME SICK BLUES, enjoy graphic art, oil paintings, photography and collages from artists Christian Lemmerz, Michael Kvium, Peter Bonde and Haugen Sorensen along with Danish chef Claus Christensen's art collection. 13 May, 6pm to 8pm, Tings Tea Lounge, Lounge Hotel, Nursery Galli, Lazimpat, 9803582844

Modern Metamorphoses, a modern take on one of the most renowned Latin poems, Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. Rs 800 (including tea), every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 4 May to 20 May, 7.15 pm, Hotel Vajra, 4271545, vajra@mos.com.np

Shanti Deep Prajwolan, light lamps to raise funds for a grant organised by Tewa. Buy a lamp for Rs 50 each and contribute. 11 May, 5pm onwards, Mangalbazaar, Patan, 9851025350, sita@tewa.org.np

MUSIC



DEGAA SATURDAY MUSIC NIGHTS, enjoy live band performances every Saturday with bands like Unlearned and Upendra and Friends who will serenade you while you relish Degaa's special Newari food. 28 April to 19 May, 7pm to 10pm, Degaa Restro Lounge, 5008679

SIGN, Live music by SIGN band every week except Tuesdays and Wednesdays. 7.30 pm onwards, Corner Bar, Radisson Hotel, Lazimpat. Call 4411818

DINING

Delices de France, savour in Royal Couscous as you listen to Egyptian singer Emad Gabra. 11 May, 7.30 pm., Thamel



ALCHEMY, an authentic Italian restaurant which serves dishes like Pizza Quatro Stagioni and Spaghetti alla Puttanesca. Thamel

Dragon Café, enjoy momos, sizzlers and vegetable coins at the most reasonable prices. Kumaripati

La Rotisserie, get your fill of roasted delights like chicken, duck and trout. Jawalakhel

Just Baked, a cozy café with amazing pastries and friendly ambience. Old Baneshwor

Pasto Vostro, a pretty place with some great pasta. Their bacon wrapped sausages are a must. Thamel

Manny's Eatery and Bar, enjoy mouth-watering Continesian delicacies with fine hospitality, Jawalakhel, 5536919

LAZY GRINGO, fail-safe Mexican restaurant. The lemonade with refills is what won us over, but the food is mighty fine. Jawalakhel

1905 Restaurant, feast on roasted delights within this converted aristocratic residence. Walled ambience and green surroundings make it an oasis within the city. Kantipath, 4215068

Bhojan Griha, traditional Nepali restaurant that serves great local food with folk music and dance. Dillibajar

New Orleans, offers a wide variety of western dishes that are scrumptious yet healthy. Jhamsikhel, 5522708

Tama, enjoy delicious khaja and taas set, along with a host of other Indian and Nepali snacks at an affordable price. Gairidhara



THE OLIVE GARDEN, now offering a revamped dinner menu from 14 March onwards with various trout dishes. Radisson Hotel, Lazimpat

Upstairs Cafe, sample a delicious range of Vietnamese cuisine. Maharajgunj, near the US embassy

Boudha Stupa Restaurant & Café, enjoy wood-fired pizza, homemade pastas and the one and only Tibetan gyakok. Boudha, 012130681, 9841484408

Salt and Pepper, a resto-lounge with a wide variety of dishes to choose from like Hakka Noodles, Hong Kong Chicken and Honey Chili Potatoes. Lakeside, Pokhara

Byanjan, enjoy great food at an affordable price. Shrimp

cocktails, Grilled Fish and desserts are favourites among guests. Lakeside, Pokhara



PERI PERI, home of legendary Portugese flamed grilled chicken, enjoy dishes served with the trademark Piri Piri sauce. Jhamsikhel, 9808563803

Thik Thak Restaurant, this restaurant boasts live fish from the lake which means the fish dishes are always fresh and delicious. Lakeside, Pokhara



STATION BBQ, try the table top grills for self-cooked barbeque or order mutton skewers and pork chops. Jhamsikhel

BU KEBA, the organic restaurant in town offers continental and Indian cuisine along with chef's originals. Sanepa



Free Data Card worth Rs. 2,258/-

on purchase of 10GB Data Package for just Rs. 2,999/-*



Rush!
Limited
time offer

New Year Offer:

- Rs. 2,999* includes 10 GB Data Package, Data Card and Data SIM.
- Applicable for Ncell Connect Data SIM only.
- 10 GB package included in this offer is valid for 30 days.
- Available from all Ncell Centres and Ncell Shops at locations having 3G coverage.
- Offer valid till stock lasts.

Ncell 3G. Nepal's Fastest Internet.
Experience life as it happens.

For more information



Ncell, Here for Nepal

www.ncell.com.np



*Exclusive of taxes. D ta car ais network loc led. Conditions Apply.



BENCH BURGER, be it a fish or a steak burger, Bench Burger offers many types and tastes to satisfy for your palate. *Krishnagalli, Patan*

Cosmopolitan Café, located in the heart of Basantapur, this cozy café offers arguably the best chicken sizzler in town. *Basantapur (along Kathmandu Darbar Square), 4225246*

Irish Pub, for the simple reason that the place actually feels like a bar. Don't miss out on their Irish coffee. *Lazimpat, Ananda Bhawan, 4416027*



JAPANESE CREPE STATION, try the uniquely Nepali khuwa crêpe for a quick fix. *Kichapaokhari and Basantapur. Call 4256655*

GETAWAYS

Last Resort, canyoning, hiking, rock climbing, rafting, mountain biking- challenge yourself and be adventurous at the Last Resort. *4700525, 4701247*



RANIBAN RETREAT, located next to the Peace Pagoda, overlooking the city and lake, the retreat offers a sweeping panorama from Dhaulagiri in the west to Himalchuli in the east. *World Peace Pagoda, Pokhara, 977-61-692136, 9841382053*

The Borderlands Eco Adventure Resorts, raft in the mighty Bhote Kosi, try a canyon descent, or an off-the-beaten trek to a hidden monastery. *Call 4700894*



Splashing Saturday

Enjoy a game of water football, dance to live music and DJ sessions or just sit back, relax and relish superb food and drinks at Splash Festival '12. Companies can test each other's water football skills. And guests who are not on the corporate list can register at the venue and enjoy football during open play.

Organisations: Rs 20,000
Individuals: Rs 1,000 per team of three (Knock Out Set) and Rs 1,200 for two teams (General Play Set)

Rs 1,499 (inclusive of beer, buffet lunch and pool facilities)

2 May, 10am onwards at Godavari Village Resort
www.water-football.com

Tibetan voices on canvas

Spanish artist Andrea Lopez Iglesias' exhibition *The New Faces of Tibet* embodies her desire to give voice to displaced Tibetans. The exhibition consists of 14 large paintings and smaller ones made in watercolour and monotype. Iglesias uses bold strokes and vibrant colours to depict Tibetan children whom she met and bonded with during her stay at Pema T'sal Monastery in Pokhara. The project is a continuation of her previous work 'Visited Places. Children Remembered' in which she focused on children in orphanages, and comes at a time when the Free Tibet movement is growing strong in the subcontinent. "What comes through these portraits is a stoic and resilient people, who have retained their innocence, faith and culture despite the harsh reality of their situation. More importantly Andrea's works are an impassioned plea to humanity itself," says Sangeeta Thapa, director at Siddhartha Art Gallery in praise of Iglesias' paintings.



11 to 24 May at Siddhartha Art Gallery



SOMEPLACE ELSE



PICS: RUBY TUESDAY



Lorry's

There are restaurants you love for what they offer in terms of their food and then there are restaurants you love for their ambience, fine service and 'hangoutability', despite their lack of excellent food. Lorry's firmly falls into the second category.

Lorry's has been open now for three months and has managed to get people talking about it in a short time- which is essential for any business to succeed. It's telling that most good reviews concerning Lorry's are about the friendly atmosphere, non-judgmental staff and little nooks that afford privacy and not the food.

The menu cannot be faulted. Concentrating on Italian, Mexican and Continental cuisines, it tried not to fall prey to the malaise that so many other restaurants fall victim to- trying to please every patron who walks through the doors. That's what I was admiring about Lorry's until the kind waiter offered me

another 'Day Menu', one that featured momos and chow mein and dal bhat thalis and everything else in between. On seeing my dismay, he explained that this special menu catered to professionals who walked in for lunch and complained about not understanding the 'complicated' dishes on the regular menu and had to have their staple fare.

Lorry's menu is delightful and not in the least bit complex. Easily laid out with a brief description of each dish, it makes ordering your meal a breeze. We decided on the BBQ Pork (Rs 300) and Potato Skins (Rs 250) with a sour cream dip to start with. The BBQ pork was quite disappointing to look at- charred

chunks of pork on a plate already had me skeptical about my order. But though the meat had undergone enthusiastic and prolonged grilling, the taste was exquisite. Smoky, succulent and moist, the scorched bits actually provided a nice texture and the sauce... mmm the sauce. They make it fresh at Lorry's and it is delicious.

The potato skins, on the other hand have a little too much going on. The skins themselves were fried so deep that they were dry and tasteless and the bean sauce was so copious that it drowned out all other flavours. The fact that they came garnished with little bits of shriveled and wizened chili bits did not help in making

a good impression either.

I wanted to be kind and non-judgmental and was hoping that Lorry's would deliver on their promise of serving wholesome delicious food so I wouldn't walk away disappointed, for an aggrieved and hungry reviewer tends to get caustic.

The Bistika Alfungi (Rs 550) - 200 grams of grilled tenderloin topped with a cream mushroom sauce with a side of pasta in fresh tomato sauce- elevated my mood considerably. Though the meat was overcooked and thus chewy (asking the customer how they'd like their meat- medium, rare or well done- would be a good idea), the sauce was sublime. With just the right amount of creaminess and a smooth consistency, it was definitely the saving grace of the meal. The tomato sauce on the pasta too was a surprise. None of that pre-packaged canned stuff at Lorry's- the sauce is fresh with a lingering taste of fresh herbs and a hint of dry oregano.

Lorry's is still very young and has aspects of a good restaurant- uncluttered, simple décor, unobtrusive staff, good music, clean restrooms, extensive bar. If it works on improving the quality of food and maintaining consistency, Lorry's has the potential to become a favourite among Kathmandu's fine-food loving patrons.

RUBY TUESDAY



Once in Jhamsikel, Lorry's is about 100 metres past St Mary's School's north gate.



Downton Abbey



MUST SEE
Sophia Pande

In an age where TV is ubiquitous and the majority of programming less than mediocre, it is always a great pleasure to come across an exceptional television series. In the US most networks have caught on to the HBO model that has provided the viewing public with gems like *The Sopranos*, *Sex and the City*, and *In Treatment* to name just a few. In general though it is the Americans who have jumped on the big spending bandwagon when it comes to TV. Therefore, it is particularly exceptional that a small English production company called Carnival Films produced the beautiful and painstakingly detailed *Downton Abbey* which has just completed its second season. Since then it has been snapped up by both ITV and PBS in the United States and made itself a critical and popular darling on both sides of the Atlantic.

Created by Julian Fellowes, who also wrote Robert Altman's late masterpiece, *Gosford Park* (2001), the series is structured around an "Upstairs, Downstairs" concept (a popular English TV show from 1971, which has also, incidentally, been recently revamped for the BBC). The show deals with the every day (although far from ordinary) lives of the aristocracy that prevail at Downton Abbey, and the sometimes disturbingly loyal to a fault staff that cater to their every need. While the premise might sound alarmingly snobbish and out of date, the product itself is not. *Downton Abbey* is a surprising and enchanting look at a way of life that is in some ways long past, yet made relevant by the very real class struggles and stories of its astonishingly riveting cast of characters.

The first series opens with a stunner, The Earl and Countess of Grantham, Robert and Cora Crawley, who reside at Downton Abbey, have only daughters, three of them: Mary,

the beautiful, but snooty and selfish oldest; Edith, the plain, and therefore sullen middle daughter; and Sybil, the idealistic, pretty, left-leaning, and politically inclined youngest.

At the time English law would not allow for the title, nor the property, to pass to a female heir, therefore the news that the Earl's first cousin James and his son Patrick, the next two in line to inherit Downton, both drowned on the Titanic is more than a blow to the family. The family is left terribly distressed, wondering who will inherit next.

Additionally, Mary, the oldest had been engaged to marry Patrick thereby ensuring that all the girls would be comfortably ensconced in their beloved Downton for the foreseeable future after the death of their father. Such was the lot of even aristocratic females in 1912 - a mere century ago.

The series progresses in fascinating ways, with each character coming into its own story arc in enormously satisfying developments. As we are introduced to the downstairs staff, we come across the stoic and admirable butler, Carson, the kind-hearted and highly efficient house-keeper Mrs Hughes, the head house maid, Anna, who falls in love with the Earl's valet, Mr Bates, and the nearly blind, but valiantly soldiering on head-cook, Mrs Patmore.

Downton Abbey may seem escapist at first with its luscious setting at the real life Highclere Castle in Hampshire, period perfect costumes, and uppity aristocratic characters, but as you watch you might find yourself wincing and smiling at certain similarities that perhaps elide with your own life. After all, it is not so long ago that Nepal itself was a feudal society, and even today there is no small gap between the rich and poor, different classes, castes, and, of course, gender. 🇳🇵

All DVDs reviewed in this column are available at: Music and Expression, Thamel, Phone # 014700092

nepalitimes.com

Watch trailer



Travel medicine in Nepal



DHANVANTARI
Buddha Basnyat, MD

Travel medicine is usually thought of as prevention and treatment of diseases in Westerners who come as tourists to the developing world and fall ill. In reality though, travel medicine is more than just preventive measures and treatment of traveller's diarrhoea.

For example, post-travel assessment of problems in a traveller is clearly more interesting for clinicians as it requires certain sophisticated knowledge of infectious diseases in the geographical area that was visited. And there are certain vulnerable groups called VFRs (visiting friends and relatives) who were born and lived in places like Nepal for many years, but are now permanently settled in a Western country. Amazingly, this group is notorious for falling sick during or after their visit to their native countries.

Experts hypothesise that

VFRs immunity to common infectious diseases like gastroenteritis and typhoid wanes after a long stay in the West. Hence the predisposition to problems. More importantly he or she may not be properly vaccinated unlike other regular, non- VFR tourists against prevalent diseases here. Some even drink Kathmandu's contaminated tap water trying to perhaps prove that they are



true sons and daughters of the soil. This is "going native" in a big way. Being sick during vacation is no fun for either the guest or the host. Furthermore, some become sick and are hospitalised with diseases like typhoid fever on return to their adopted country and are presented as cautionary tales on medical rounds in Western hospitals. This is a bit

embarrassing, as a physician who migrated from Nepal found out after visiting his birthplace (without taking health precautions) during Dasain and fell sick with typhoid on his return.

So if you have Nepali friends and relatives settled in developed countries wishing to visit you, it's essential to recommend them to visit local travel clinics in their home towns for advice or look up websites of organisations like the Centres for Disease Control (CDC) or WHO for vaccinations and other precautions they should take before flying to Nepal.

Another important point is that busy clinicians in Nepal hardly ever obtain travel history from their patients. With Nepalis being more mobile (labour migrants, for example) than ever before, keeping a travel history is important. So if you travel to Africa and come down with flu-like illness, you probably have the dangerous kind of malaria unless proven otherwise. You might have to tell your doctor of your recent visit to Africa regardless of whether the doctor asks you or not. 🇳🇵

WEEKEND WEATHER

This week marked the turning phase of the weather system from westerly-driven to pre-monsoon. It isn't monsoon yet, but just the circulations in the Bay of Bengal driving moisture up to the mountain which is falling as condensation when it hits the mountains. The rain is still going to come in localised storms over the weekend, but the precipitation will be higher. The southerly wind has also raised the maximum and minimum temperatures in Kathmandu, which has been unseasonably cool in the past month.



FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
26-17	27-17	30-17



BIKASH DUWANE

FOLLOW ME: PM Baburam Bhattarai swears in 11 of the 12 newly appointed ministers at the President's office in Shital Niwas on Sunday. UMDF's Rajendra Mahato was unable to join the ceremony.



WALLACE WOON

SALVAGE VALUE: A *kabadi-wala* flattening scrap sheets of zinc roofing from the demolished squatter residences at Thapathali on Tuesday afternoon.



BIKRAM RAI

CROSSING PATHS: A local porter walks past a tourist on Tuesday on a trekking route that leads to Pangboche in the Khumbu region.



BIKASH DUWANE

VICTORY WAVES: Newly crowned Miss Nepal Earth Nagma Shrestha, Miss Nepal Shristi Shrestha and Miss Nepal International Subeksha Khadka (L-R) at the The Hidden Treasure Miss Nepal in Kathmandu on Sunday.



ANURAG ACHARYA



The politicians have landed us in a mess by not listening to the electorate, but there is still time to change that

The times they are changing



BY THE WAY
Anurag Acharya

Our netas often say what they don't mean, but every so often when they actually mean what they say people don't trust them. No one believes a compulsive liar, even when he is telling the truth.

For the last three weeks, top party leaders have been in marathon meetings and when ambushed outside, their general refrain is: "We have once more agreed to agree." Confronted by a whole spectrum of identity pressure groups, the parties are trying to strike midnight deals behind closed doors. They seem oblivious to the fact that the nation has moved beyond formal, dry and institutionally structured political debate and the electorate is getting polarised.

It is an irony that parties which were once so obsessed with majoritarian politics are now desperately trying to forge a 'consensus' because they are too scared to find out if they have the required number on their side. In this time of great churning, the only safe bargain for the leaders is to follow the people's aspiration for social harmony, justice and development.

The Himalmedia Public Opinion Survey 2012 shows clearer and more assertive response in favour of a directly-elected executive, and no, people are not scared of a totalitarian dictator taking over. Compared to previous years' polls, the respondents are even bolder in expressing their views, as seen in the very low 'Don't Know/Can't Say' count. On federalism, the majority of respondents reject ethnicity-based enclaves, but feel there should be some form of

affirmative action to uplift the marginalised within inclusive federal states.

Interestingly, there is a departure on this position in the Madhes where people have given a clear indication they do not want to be governed by the hill establishment. Respondents in the Tarai show greater wisdom than the leaders they elected by favouring regional and cultural autonomy, not an ethnically or politically divided entity. This is an important distinction which the Madhes-bashing mainstream media and Kathmandu establishment often overlook. If the parties want to feel the pulse of their constituents, they should start listening to them more instead of haranguing them from helipads.

Disaggregating this year's poll results also shows people in rural areas, especially the youth, are more positive and feel a degree of change due to improved road access, education, health and drinking water facilities, but there is seething anger among the more educated and professional class who can't find jobs, and whose lives are frequently paralysed by shutdowns, fuel shortages and a tripling of the price of basic commodities in the last ten years.

Angry questions hurled at politicians in public forums and cynical comments in the Kathmandu media (including on the pages of this paper) are results of desperation among the urban educated. But even in these desperate times the people have shown remarkable optimism that the nation will overcome protracted transition post-27 May.

The parties want to form two national unity governments in three weeks. We wish them luck. Is this the time to be haggling over who becomes minister for two weeks, when a constitution needs to be written

in that time?

The unseemly political bartering on portfolios has no doubt lowered people's regard for political leaders even further, but they aren't exactly complaining. There is nothing wrong with parties and leaders wanting to be a visible part of

the statute drafting as long as they intend to solve problems and not become part of the problem.

But the nation cannot be held hostage to their inflated egos and often undeserving ambitions. Those claiming government leadership and

attractive portfolios must first be sure of their own public approval ratings. The thumbs down poll respondents gave those who talk the loudest is an indication that people will now judge the leaders not on the basis of what they say, but on what they do.

Put your **body, mind, and spirit** in harmony

Subscribe to Nepali Times for two years, and

Get a free coupon worth Rs 3,000 at

TRANQUILITY SPA

Call today
01-554 2525, Fax: 977 1 525 1013, 98510 30025
subscription@himalmedia.com
SMS: SUB <space> to 5004



The Seti River shortly after the avalanche dam was breached, this picture was taken from a remote camera on the wingtip of the plane.



The leading edge of the flood was filled with floating logs as the water swirled towards Pokhara.



Maximov caught up with the flood near Tatopani, where Ukrainian tourists were being swept away even as this picture was being taken.



The flood as it raced past the Pokhara-Baglung Highway near Hyangja.

PICS: ALEXANDER MAXIMOV

Eye in the sky

Russian pilot of sight-seeing flight radioed Pokhara about the Seti flood and possibly saved many lives



Captain Alexander Maximov

KUNDA DIXIT

KUNDA DIXIT

Captain Alexander Maximov used to fly MiG fighters in Russia before coming to Nepal to work for Avia Club in Pokhara.

On Saturday morning he had taken a tourist up the Seti Valley in his blue single-engined Ukrainian-made Aeroprakt to see the Annapurnas up close. It wasn't a perfect day and there were lingering clouds from the previous night's thunderstorm. He got back to Pokhara, and took off immediately again with another passenger before the winds picked up over the mountains.

He had reached his cruising

altitude of 3,300 m above the Seti, 25 km north of the airport with Machapuchre and Annapurna 4 towering over him. Looking down, he noticed something odd. The Seti wasn't its usual thin white thread at the bottom of the valley, but looked like a brown rope. The leading edge of the wave was a dark wall of water he estimated to be about 10 m high.

Because of his military training, Maximov knew exactly what he was seeing and thought he better alert people downstream. He immediately radioed Pokhara tower and told the air traffic controller that "a big water" was coming down the Seti. The control tower informed security agencies and


FM stations in the city, and it was possibly because of this half-hour forewarning that a lot of lives were saved.

"I could see multiple avalanches of ice and rock blocking the Seti just below the point where the Bhujung Khola joins it," Maximov told *Nepali Times* over phone from Pokhara on Saturday evening, "I turned the plane around to head back to the airport, but the water was travelling faster than the plane."

Still, by putting the plane on a shallow dive Maximov managed to catch up and took dramatic aerial pictures of the Seti flood arriving on the northern edge of Pokhara before disappearing underneath the

city. The flood was preceded by a red mass of floating logs as the water raced down river.

Maximov has been flying in Pokhara now for more than a decade, but says he has never seen anything like what he saw on 5 May. He was also saddened by the loss of life, especially when he heard that three Ukrainian visitors had been swept away by the flood at Tatopani and are still missing.

In his own understated and modest way, Maximov brushed aside praise for the quick thinking that may have saved so many lives. "I was just doing my job and what anyone else in my place would have done," he said. 




SURYA NEPAL
PRIVATE LIMITED

SURYA NEPAL

Premium men's wear from

PLAYERS

UML's tantrums

Interview with CPN-UML
Chairman Jhala Nath Khanal
Kantipur, 7 May

कान्तिपुर

Will the CPN-UML join the national unity government under Baburam Bhattarai?

We were ready to join the present government under Bhattarai, but we were put off by the way portfolios were distributed without consulting us. We are holding talks with other parties and if the discussions end positively we will consider joining. But they need to give us the respect we deserve.

What sort of respect is the party seeking?

If they want us to be a part of the government, they should consult us before assigning portfolios. But they kept us out of the entire process.

Is it only because of the portfolios?

UML is not a party that feeds on leftovers. The Prime Minister should mend his ways and learn to bring everybody on board.

If constitution drafting is the need of the hour, why focus on power politics?

We are always in favour of statute drafting and have never prioritised power politics over constitution making. But when there is a written agreement, it must be carried out honestly. If they cannot implement the agreement, the UML is willing to stay out of the government and help in the process as we have been doing so far.

Are you just making excuses because the central committee refused to endorse the agreement that you had signed with the parties?

It is not an excuse. The central committee expressed dissatisfaction over the Prime Minister's high handedness and took a decision accordingly.



EKANTIPUR

Editorial, *Nagarik*, 8 May

नागरिक

The CPN-UML has backtracked on its earlier commitment to join the national unity government citing dissatisfaction over portfolio distribution. After signing the five-point agreement, chairman Jhala Nath Khanal had said with a lot of hope that a unity government would pave way for statute drafting. But the UML's refusal to join the government because it was not offered 'attractive' ministries is shameful, especially since the party has been in

power the longest after CA elections.

The UML should realise that in a parliamentary system, portfolio distribution is the prerogative of the prime minister. Besides, during Madhav Nepal also handed out important portfolios like home, defense, finance and communication to members of his own party during his tenure in office. By not joining the unity government, the UML has exposed its greed and this move is likely to dampen the party's political stature in the long run.

"A directly-elected president is entitled to key powers"

Interview with Maoist Chairman
Pushpa Kamal Dahal in *Nepal*,
13 May

नेपाल

Can you guarantee that the constitution will be completed by 27 May?

I can't give you 100 per cent guarantee, but our party firmly believes the constitution will be written by the deadline. We may have to make certain amendments, but the parties already have an understanding and have successfully forged an agreement. If we fail this time, we won't be able to face the public, so there is no way out.

Certain groups are demanding ethnicity based federal units. What are your thoughts?

I don't see it only as ethnicity based federalism. This is about identity, not ethnicity. For example the calls for Karnali and Seti-Mahakali provinces

are not based on ethnicity, but on identity. People from these regions have been marginalised and lived under a central government for too long. They now want equal rights and recognition. If we do not address their demands, we will be ignoring the people's problems.

You said there is close agreement on a mixed system of governance with a directly-elected president.

Yes, after long discussions among the parties in the Dispute Resolution Sub-Committee, we came to the conclusion that a mixed system of governance is the way to go. We have set up a team which will analyse the experiences of other countries and offer recommendations. This agreement still stands true. We are now trying to figure out how to manage the distribution of power. A weak president is against the ideals of democracy.

A directly-elected president is entitled to key powers and will not be just ceremonial. However, we have seen forces that want to limit the power of the president.

The intra-party rift has turned very public in recent times. Why have issues not been resolved yet?

It may look like that from the outside, but we have the situation under control. We have been friends for over 30 years, but recently competition within the party has increased and this is not favourable. We have decided that our Baidya faction friends should be allowed to voice their opinions in public, and protest. We will also express our opinions, but the party will not break. Expressing one's belief while keeping the party united is very important, that is our strategy for now. Let's see where it leads us.

Would you say that geo-political factors are influencing the constitution writing and peace process?

Of course. To begin with, the 12-point deal was forged in Delhi. Present political processes clearly show geo-political influence. If we talk about the constitution, we have been deliberating on the political systems of China and India and interacting with their leaders. There is direct as well as indirect effect. But it is not just China and India, even South Africa, Europe and the US are interested in Nepal's constitution. While some influences are positive, others are negative. Nepal's intellectuals and leaders now need to reject unnecessary meddling and work for the country's best interests.

Lessons unlearned

Sikshak, April-May 2012

सिक्का

Last month the Ministry of Education signed an agreement with agitating teachers' unions in the presence of major political parties and speaker Subhas Nembang. The agreement aimed to end frequent strikes which had paralysed Nepal's education sector for several months and the government finally seems serious about addressing the concerns of the teachers. If the agreements are implemented sincerely, it will benefit public school teachers who have been in service for more than five years but have not received permanent status. Teachers will be entitled to pension plans like other government employees and can go through fair and standardised promotion process.

But educationist Tirtha Khania feels the agreement is just an excuse and will not improve the quality of public education. Khania blames frequent protests by teachers' unions for degrading education standards and says there has been no serious debate on the types of policies needed in Nepal. "The unions have unwarranted influence over the country's education policy. But their demands only reflect their narrow self-interests and do not help upgrade our education system," laments Khania.



Here's your constitution

नागरिक Yubak in *Nagarik*, 4 May

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Our party will not feed on leftovers.”



CPN-UML Chairman Jhala Nath Khanal commenting on his party's decision not to join the present government, quoted in *Kantipur*, 7 May.



MIN RATNA BAURACHARYA

Realpolitik

Subash Devkota in *Himal Khabarpatrika*, 28 April-13 May

हिमाल

Although the Baidya faction appears to be a staunch opponent of the Bhattarai government and Dahal-led party establishment, there are very few differences between them. Both groups want to ultimately seize power and agree that a people's revolt is the way forward. The party establishment believes that a revolt may not be the most appropriate approach at the moment, because their earlier attempts to impeach ex-army chief, Rukmangad Katwal, and implement a general strike failed. However, the hardliners within the Baidya faction blame lack of preparation and carelessness for the letdown. They argue that such minor hiccups should not deter them from the path of revolution.



Furthermore, the Baidya faction does not want the statute drafting to be completed by 27 May, because that would provide ripe conditions for a revolt. The establishment, on the other hand, realises that it can't stay in power without the blessings of the southern neighbour and plans to declare a constitution by the deadline. However, insiders say Dahal wants the remaining two weeks to unfold in such a way so that a constitution is not possible so that he can make someone else a scapegoat. Dahal knows Baidya has greater support of the former combatants and the only way to secure his political future is to keep the party united. Baidya is likely to accept Dahal's leadership if he endorses the hard-line agenda. The fate of the Maoist party now rests on whether the new constitution gets written on time.

Mega five

Karobar, 4 May

कारोबार

Five foreign companies have submitted their applications to Nepal Investment Board for developing five mega projects in the country. Investment worth of Rs 350 billion is expected to be poured into aviation, tourism, transport and other sectors.

According to Radhesh Pant, head of the board, US, Chinese, French, German and British companies are interested in financing these projects and talks with the companies will begin once the cabinet passes a regulation that will empower the board to make all decisions. Although Pant refused to divulge much information about potential investors, he says all five companies are financially and technically competent to carry out the projects.

In 2011, the Bhattarai government declared 2012-2013 as investment year and set an ambitious target of attracting Rs 80 billion in foreign investment. But business as usual has put off countless investors. For example the Sapta Koshi High Dam and Sunkoshi-Kamala multipurpose projects are still in limbo and the Indian government who was funding these initiatives is losing patience.

Original. Reliable. Secure.

...reasons to buy from us.

HP Probook 4431s - Business Notebook PC
i5, 2.5GHz, 4GB RAM, 640GB HDD, DVDRW, 14" LED Display, Webcam, WLAN, Fingerprint Reader, Thin lightweight with wear resistant HP DuraFinish up to 5 hrs 45 min backup
1 Year Warranty

HP 430 Notebook PC
i3, 2.3 GHz, 2GB RAM, 320GB HDD, DVDRW, 14" LED Display, Webcam, WLAN, upto 5 hrs backup
3 YEARS WARRANTY

HP Compaq 8200 Elite PC
i5, 3.10 GHz, 4GB RAM, 750GB HDD, DVDRW, HP 18.5" LCD Monitor
3 years warranty

HP Pro 3300 MT PC
i3, 3.3 GHz, 2GB RAM, 500GB HDD, DVDRW, HP 18.5" LCD Monitor
3 years warranty

Upgrade to **HP Compaq 21.5" LCD Monitor *** with HP Desktops at no extra cost.
Hurry!! Offer valid till stocks last.
*1 Year Warranty.

Authorised Distributor: CAS Trading House Pvt. Ltd. Computerland Building, New Plaza, Putalisadak, Kathmandu, Nepal. Phone: 977-1- 4440271-2, 4430858, 4430859. P.O. Box: 2932 | Fax: 977-1- 4430641. E-mail: sales@cth.ccsl.com.np | Web: www.castradinghouse.com

Reseller: Silvercrest Networks Pvt. Ltd: Anamnagar 4102510 | Innovative International: Putalisadak 4249332 | Paramount Office System: Putalisadak 4268002 | Sudin International Pvt. Ltd.: New Road 4245545 | Plus Computer Pvt. Ltd.: New Road 4232100 | Jinesh Infosys: Putalisadak 4230968 | Pine Overseas Pvt. Ltd.: New Road 4246227 | Himalayan Office Automation: Pokhara 061525300 | Maruti Computer: New Road 4222244 | Global IT Technology Pvt. Ltd.: Thapathali 4255747 | ECom Traders: Kumaripati 5548800 | Computer Concern: Putalisadak 4426606 | Metropolitan Trade Concern: Newroad 4418707 | Emco International: Putalisadak 4168102 | Best Tech Center: New Road 4259469 | D-Max Enterprise Pvt. Ltd. Jawalakhel 5543860 | COS Trading Co. Pvt. Ltd. Kamaladi 4224836

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Abt Associates, a mission-driven, global leader in research and program implementation in the fields of health, social and environmental policy, and international development, seeks qualified candidates for a potential Health Systems Strengthening (HSS) program to build the capacity of the Government of Nepal to plan, manage and deliver high quality and equitable family planning, maternal, newborn and child health services through cross-cutting HSS interventions. Brief descriptions and qualification requirements for positions under consideration are listed below. All positions are contingent on program award.

- Chief of Party (COP)** -- Provides overall strategic direction, management and technical leadership to the HSS program in Nepal, and acts as the primary liaison between the program, the Funder and the Government of Nepal. Responsible for ensuring responsiveness and quality of program results; guiding senior technical staff; and the overall management of operational, financial and administrative aspects of the program. **Qualification requirements:** Master's Degree (minimum) in Public Health, Health Administration, or a related degree and 10-15 years of international health experience. Substantial experience in the areas of maternal and child health, health care improvement strategies, health systems strengthening, and capacity building. Demonstrated experience in managing a donor funded program in the South Asia region, in Nepal preferred. Fluency in English and Nepali also preferred.
- Health Governance Specialist** -- Leads technical activities that support decentralization and improve health system governance of district and sub-district level health facilities. Assists district-level officials to expand and strengthen Health Facility Operations and Management Committees. Supports the expansion of the Local Health Governance Strengthening Program to build capacity of local government officials to manage health services. **Qualification requirements:** Master's Degree in Public Health, Health Administration, Health Service Delivery or a related discipline and 8+ years' professional experience in implementing and managing integrated health services in the South Asia region. Significant experience in decentralization, health policy, and advocacy. Nepali language fluency and a high level of English language competency are required.
- Local Government Liaison** -- Supports the Health Governance Specialist in the implementation of decentralization and governance initiatives at the district and community levels. Liaises with district and sub-district health officials, Ministry of Local Development personnel, local leaders and citizens, including women, disadvantaged groups, and minorities. Provides technical assistance to Health Facility Management Committees and to the Local Health Governance Strengthening Program. **Qualification requirements:** Bachelors Degree in Community Health, Social Work, Development, or other relevant field and 4 years of experience in community outreach and development. Significant experience as liaison between communities and government agencies performing advocacy for social development and community empowerment. Nepali language fluency and a high level of English language competency are required.
- Health Systems Strengthening Senior Advisor** -- Provides technical assistance to increase and extend the administrative, managerial, and operational capacity of national and district levels in the identified program areas. Assesses current health system managerial and operational efficiencies; tailors interventions to improve managerial and operational decisions that advance health outcomes. Oversees the HSS Team, including the HMIS, Health Financing, Health Policy and Capacity Building Technical Leads. **Qualification Requirements:** Master's Degree (minimum) in Public Health, Health Administration, or a related degree, and 10-15 years of international health experience. At least 6 years of relevant professional experience in health systems strengthening, policy reform, or health program management.
- Strategic Information Senior Advisor** -- Leads efforts to collect, analyze and present data on program activities. Works with the Nepal Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP) and other local partner organizations to develop and track indicators related to health systems strengthening, service delivery, capacity building, and maternal and neonatal health outcomes. Responsible for developing and executing an M&E plan in consultation with the MOHP and other program partners and stakeholders. S/he will also be responsible for planning and carrying out M&E capacity building at all levels, from district health managers to community-level health providers. **Qualification Requirements:** Minimum of a Master's Degree in a relevant discipline and 10+ years' experience in strategic information management of MNCH programming. Demonstrated ability in capacity building of local organizations.

Interested individuals can learn more about Abt Associates' multi-disciplinary group of dedicated professionals who provide technical assistance, research analysis, and systems strengthening services in more than 100 countries at: www.abtassociates.com

To be considered for any position, an applicant must submit his/her CV and an application letter that provides details of the applicant's specific qualifications for the desired position to:
NepalH4L@abtassoc.com

In the subject line of the email, write the title of the position for which you are applying. If you wish to apply for more than one position, please submit separate applications for each position. Applications that do not follow these instructions, or that do not meet the stated minimum qualification requirements, will not be considered. All applications should be submitted by 18 May 2012; applications received after this date may not be considered.





Vibrant sense dwells
in a glittering mind.

asianpaints

ROYALE Glitter | Mind Your Sense

Gobblement of Nepal

Now that the infamous 4-point agreement (a shotgun marriage between the Maoists and Madhesis) has been replaced with the 5-point agreement (a shotgun foursome between the Mao, NC, UML and Madhesis) the donkey turned to a noted Nepal-watcher to explain the significance of this and why we need two governments in three weeks. Since I recorded his answer, here it is verbatim:

“You see, it’s like this. Oli and Poudyal wanted to oust Bhattarai through a no-confidence vote in the CA to force him to induct the NC and UML into a unity government. At first Bhattarai ignored them, but when he found out that with the Baidya faction threatening to mutiny and the smaller parties joining, it looked like the no-confidence may actually work. So Sitaula and Amres got together with some guidance from Lainchour to convince Bhattarai and Dahal to agree to bring the NC and UML into government by getting Susil and JN to agree. Sitaula dangled a post-May 27 PM-ship carrot in front of Susil. Ram Saran



and Nepal were told not to make trouble otherwise their chances of becoming PM in the future would go out the window. It worked with them, but it didn’t work with Oli and Deuba who stubbornly refused to join the govt. You’re with me so far? The trouble started because the Madhesi parties got to keep powerful ministerships as lollipops so they won’t create another bawal in the constitution negotiations on carving up the Madhes. This angered Oli who saw that his party was getting nothing out of this arrangement. Deuba went into a deep sulk because his boys are not getting Energy and Culture, and Ram Chandra who has been eating

crow ever since he lost the vote in the House 17 times thinks the rug has been pulled from under him yet again. But this gobblement is just for show anyway, since by 27 May there is supposed to be another govt that will be led by the NC. Jhusilo is licking his chops and has already sent his दौरा सुरवाल to the dry cleaners, but he first has to be nominated to the CA, and the conundrum for the kangresis is who to throw out to make place for the Maha Muntri. And being a bit out of it lately, he hasn’t figured out that Sitaula thinks he is made for greater things and has other plans, and may not be satisfied with Home Minister.”

Whoa. I never knew it was as simple as that.

झरे

The latest estimate of the net personal worth of the Baddie nomenclatura is that it has exceeded \$2 billion, of which half belongs to Comrade Gargantuan himself. He should be worried that FATF is stuck again and its anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism (aren’t the Baddies still on Uncle Sam’s terror watchlist, btw?) provisions may mean his trans-continental assets may be frozen. But the latest public opinion survey also shows there has been some frightening erosion of the Awesome brand. Then there

is Comrade Prabhakaran who by now owns 80% of the bulldozer fleet in Nepal of which there were 1,000 at latest count. They’re hired out at Rs 20,000 a day: do the maths. The comrade is also now the sole sales agent here of a Chinese parastatal that is trying to pan off two MA60s and five Y12s to KNACK at over inflated costs. Finance Minister Barsha Man Pun has now been controlling the purse strings of the treasury for six months and has been so adept, his nickname in the ministry is “Artha Man”. Then of course there is Mahara Dai whose lives by the dictum “political power flows out of my wallet”.

झरे

Why beat around the bush? Let’s just make Comrade Amareso prime minister and appoint Prof SD Muni Nepal’s ambassador to New Delhi?

झरे

And here is the headline of the week: The Akhanda Far-west Struggle Committee which was driving to Kathmandu for holding talks with the government has been stuck in banda by Akhanda Chitwan.




Incredibly **SPACIOUS** Incredibly **PRICED**

Call Now For a Test Drive

VIJAY MOTORS PVT. LTD. - Sole Distributor for General Motors, Naxal, Bhagwati Marg - 1, Kathmandu. Contact: 9801026541, 9801026542, 9801026543, 9801026544, For Queries SMS 'car' to 2426, E-mail: sales@chevrolet.com.np
Authorised Sales & Service Centres: • Pokhara - 9856022495 • Butwal - 9847090837 • Nepalgunj - 9858021489 • Biratnagar - 9852024601 • Thapathali - 4101542 • Birtamode - 9842700420

CDO Regd No 194/056/57 Lalitpur, Central Region Postal Regd. No 09/066/67